



**GROUP BOARD NOMINATION &
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Explanation
AC	Audit Committee
CBC	Central Bank of Cyprus
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CGCO	Corporate Governance Compliance Officer
ECCC	Ethics, Conduct and Culture Committee
Group	Bank and all of its subsidiaries
HRRC	Human Resources & Remuneration Committee
IAD	Internal Audit Division
KFH	Key Function Holders
NCGC	Nominations & Corporate Governance Committee
Observer by invitation	A person who is not a committee member and does not have voting rights. He/she attends a meeting because he/she has some contribution to make to the meeting. For example, he/she may submit a report or make a presentation. The person may be a regular(“standing”) invitee or simply an invitee for particular item/s
Observer in attendance	A person who is not a committee member, does not have voting rights and does not normally have speaking rights. He/she attends a meeting because of the position he/she holds, normally to be kept informed and/or to provide information and he/she may be invited by the Chair to speak in appropriate circumstances.
Observer-Visitor External	A person outside the organisation(external) who attends a Committee for a specific topic following invitation by the Chair
RC	Risk Committee
TC	Technology Committee

A. AUTHORITY

1. The Group Board Nominations and Corporate Governance Committee ("**the Committee**") is a Committee of the Board of Directors ("**the Board**") of the Bank of Cyprus Plc ("**the Group**") from which it obtains its authority and to which it regularly reports.
2. The Committee has been delegated authority by the Board in respect of the functions and powers in these Terms of Reference.
3. The Committee is concerned with the business of the Bank, its business units and subsidiaries (the Bank and its subsidiaries being "**the Group**") and accordingly its authority extends to all relevant matters relating to the Group.
4. The Committee has authority to investigate any matters within its terms of reference calling on whatever resources (including external professional or legal services) and to obtain such information as it may require from any Director, officer or employee of any member of the Group. It shall have access to adequate funding to enable it to discharge its duties.
5. The Chairperson is authorised to provide to this respect approval of expenditure up to a maximum of €20.000 and he/she is required to inform the Committee at the next meeting.
6. For expenditure within the approved budget, regarding services, Compliance Division requests the approval of the Committee provided that the Bank's applicable procurement guidelines have been followed. The Chairperson is authorised to provide approval up to €100.000, with the requirement that all Committee members are notified (through an e-mail) and the majority provides their positive confirmation.
7. The Committee reviews annually the Terms of Reference and recommends necessary changes to the Board.

B. ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

The role of the Committee is to support and advise the Board in relation to:

- Board recruitment (including regularly reviewing, reporting on and taking into account when making further appointments the composition and effectiveness of the Board);
- Considering and making recommendations to the Board in respect of the appointment of Key Function Holders and
- Reviewing succession planning for Directors and senior management, and overseeing the development of a diverse pipeline for succession

The Committee also:

- keeps the Board's governance arrangements under review and makes appropriate recommendations to the Board to ensure that such arrangements are consistent with best corporate governance standards and practices in place;
- oversees subsidiary governance to ensure that appropriate and proportionate governance arrangements are in place for Group subsidiaries;

- provides oversight to the Group's ESG and climate strategy aimed at achieving present and future economic prosperity, environmental integrity and social equity for the Group and its stakeholders; and
- supports the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities relating to the Bank's strategy and supports the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan.

C. COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

1. The Committee has a minimum of 3 members. The Committee must consist entirely of non-executive Directors of whom the majority must be independent Directors.
2. Members should have adequate individual and collective knowledge, expertise and experience relating to the business of the Group to be able to assess the appropriate composition of the Board, including recommending candidates to fill Board vacancies.
3. The Chairperson of the Board will chair the Committee, except when it meets to discuss his/her succession or performance.
4. The Board appoints the members of the Committee annually. Membership of the Committee is reviewed annually by the Chair to include consideration of rotation of its members and to ensure an optimal mix of expertise, competencies and experience
5. The Board appoints a Chairperson of the Committee for a maximum period of six years whether consecutive or not.

D. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. The Committee holds regular meetings, at least 2 per year and additionally, ad hoc meetings whenever called by the Chairperson of the Committee.
2. Notice of meetings together with the agenda and support material of the items to be discussed shall be forwarded to each member of the Committee or any other person required or invited to attend no later than 5 working days before the date of the meeting.
3. The Company Secretary or his/her nominee shall record and maintain detailed minutes of the meetings of the Committee. Draft minutes must be finalised no later than fifteen (15) business days following the meeting, formally approved at the next meeting, and at the same time be submitted to the Board for noting (unless in the opinion of the Committee Chairperson it would be inappropriate to do so).
4. The quorum for a meeting is 2 members or 50% rounded up, whichever is the highest.
5. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes the Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote.
6. The Board's directions for minimum annual attendance requirements for Committees of the Board require Committee members to participate in at least 3/4 of all meetings (regular and extraordinary) and that any continuous absences not to exceed 2 in number.
7. The CEO and the CGCO are observers by invitation of the Committee withdrawing if required to do so by the Chairperson.

8. No person other than a Committee member is entitled to attend meetings of the Committee, although others may attend as observers by invitation. The Chairperson of the Committee is entitled to invite other Directors that are not members of the Committee, members of the management of the Group or external parties to participate in a meeting, in order to advise or inform the Committee on the issues discussed at the meeting. Any such persons are present only during the discussion of the specific items and leave the meeting room immediately after, without any participations in the decision-making processes.
9. The Committee shall annually establish a schedule of major topics to be discussed during the year.
10. Decisions beyond this Committee's authority and matters which any member of the Committee deems necessary for escalation will be escalated by the Chair to the Board as appropriate.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. *Composition of the Board*

- Assess regularly, at least annually, the structure, size, composition and succession plans of the Board (including consideration of the skills, knowledge, experience and diversity of Directors and their compliance with the relevant suitability standards bearing in mind the challenges and opportunities facing the Group and of each Board Committee and make recommendations to the Board with regard to any changes it considers desirable.
- Ensure to the extent possible and on an ongoing basis, that the Board's decision-making process is not dominated by any one individual or small group of individuals in a manner that is detrimental to the interests of the Group as a whole. Ensure that cross committee memberships do not allow individuals to exercise excessive influence or control. No Director can be a member of more than two of the regulated Committees of the Board.

When considering an appointment to the Board:

- prepare a description of the role and capabilities required for each appointment (including, in the case of a non-executive Director, the time commitment expected, recognising the need for availability in the event of a crisis), including in relation to appropriate commercial and functional experience and in the light of the assessments of the Board referred to above and the Board succession planning referred to below;
- engage a broad set of qualities and competences as per the Nominations Policy (*Appendix 4*) of the Board;
- conduct searches for Board candidates, and make appointments, on merit against objective criteria and with due regard to the benefits of diversity on the Board, including gender (recognising that diversity of psychological type, background and gender is important to ensure that the Board is not composed solely of like-minded individuals);
- in the case of the appointment of a non-executive Director, take into account the necessary skills and knowledge required in relation to relevant Committees of the Board;
- ensure that the procedure for appointment of Directors to the Board is formal, rigorous and transparent; and
- ensure that the potential Director is able to allocate sufficient time to the Group to be able to discharge his or her responsibilities effectively.
- Consider all other directorships of the candidate and ensure they are within regulatory limits and assess as to potential conflict of interest or reputational risk or regulatory restrictions.

- When considering the appointment of the Board Chairperson: (a) prepare a job specification, including an assessment of the time commitment expected (recognizing the need for availability in the event of a crisis); and (b) ensure that a nominee Director's other significant commitments are disclosed to the Board before appointment.
- Review the measurable objectives annually in order to determine and recommend whether any new or revised principles should be set for Board diversity (including gender), and, if so, establish targets and/or propose relevant action plans to the Board for consideration.
- Use the services of an external search consultancy or open advertising to identify qualified individuals as nominees for election, re-election or appointment as Directors of the Board, who will enrich and enhance the strategic direction provided by the Board to executive management. When not using the services of an external search consultancy or open advertising for such appointments an explanation should be provided in the Annual Report.
- Prepare a report for submission to the Board and make recommendation for suitable candidates to be appointed as Directors. Where relevant, the NCGC will indicate in its reports the range of candidates considered, the selection process followed, and the key considerations that were relevant for the selection of the proposed candidate/s relative to other candidates. The Chairperson must confirm to the Board that the process included in the Nominations Policy was followed.

Under the overall responsibility and supervision of the Chairperson, review periodically, and at least annually, succession plans for the Board and senior management so as to (a) ensure that successions occur smoothly (b) maintain an appropriate balance of diversity, skills, independence, knowledge and experience and (c) ensure the progressive renewal of the Board, and report to the Board accordingly.

- Review the annual effectiveness of the Directors in office and based on the results of this review recommend to the Board that each Director proposed for re-election continues to be effective and that each one demonstrates the level of commitment required in connection to their role on the Board and the needs of the business.
- Nominate members for the material¹ subsidiary boards taking into consideration the requirements of the various supervisory bodies relevant to each subsidiary. (Non-material subsidiary boards to be appointed by the CEO).

¹ Material subsidiaries are the Bank, EuroLife and Genikes Insurance

2. *Board Effectiveness*

Under the overall responsibility and supervision of the Chairperson:

- Approve the process of at least an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the Board, of each Board Committee and of each individual member of the Board (as described in more detail below);
- Conduct such review annually in coordination with the CGCO of the Group; and
- Assess the findings of such a review and make relevant recommendations to the Board;
- Approve a plan of action leading to the implementation of the recommendations approved by the Board.
- Ensure that the evaluation process is formal and rigorous and covers, as a minimum, items in Appendix A:
- Ensure that non-executive members of the Board regularly self-appraise their individual skills, knowledge and expertise, and determine whether further professional development would help them develop their expertise and fulfil their obligations.
- Ensure that the evaluation of the Chairperson of the Board is carried out by the non-executive directors, taking into account the views of the Executive Directors, under the overall supervision and responsibility of the Senior Independent Director.
- Ensure that the Chairperson of the Board regularly reviews and agrees with each Director their training and development needs.
- Monitor the assignment of the review and evaluation of the composition, efficiency and effectiveness of the Board and its Committees to an independent external consultant at least once every three (3) years.

3. *Suitability of members of the Board and KFH*

- Define the profile (job description / qualifications) for the position of CEO taking into account the scope of the Group's operations and the need for a clear division between the responsibilities of the CEO and the Chairperson.

Assist the Board in identifying individuals as candidates as per the Group Policy on the suitability of members of the management body and KFH (*Appendix 17*), that fit the profile for the position of CEO, having relevant extensive experience and capable of leading the organisation and effectively implementing its strategy, setting an example to employees, communicating the expectations of the Board in relation to the Group's culture, values and behaviour and supporting the Chairperson in ensuring that appropriate standards of corporate governance permeate through all parts of the Group.

Given that the NCGC runs the CEO search process, while the HRRC is responsible for his/her contract & remuneration terms, joint NCGC and HRRC meetings should be scheduled so that any decision taken is agreed by both Committees.

- Consider the appointment of KFH, proposed by management to ensure they have the appropriate integrity, adequate knowledge, experience, skill and competence for their roles, remaining cognisant of the gender balance and diversity profile of those in senior management and their direct reports, and make recommendation to the Board with regard to such appointments.

- Perform the annual appraisal of the performance of the CEO and other executive Directors against set targets and submit to the Board for approval.
- Consider periodically, and at least annually jointly with the HRRC, the adequacy of proposals for the succession, over the longer term, to key positions within the Group, taking into accounts the challenges and opportunities facing the Group and review at least annually a report on the Group's Talent Management program, including any measures being taken to improve the pipeline of talent.
- Approve appointments of members of the Management Body to another entity's board so as to ensure that such new engagements do not create a conflict of interest.
- Have access to all relevant information and data necessary to perform its role, including information and data from relevant control or other corporate functions (e.g. human resources, IT, legal etc) including information on regulatory compliance, in order to prevent and combat money laundering, including access to aggregate information and risk factors related to preventing and combating money laundering.
- Approve major changes to the Group's corporate structure as recommended by the CEO.
- Annually review the list of Material Risk Takers

- **4. *Corporate Governance***

- Review and recommend to the Board for approval the Corporate Governance Policy of the Group. Review the effectiveness and adequacy of the corporate governance framework in coordination with the CGCO of the Group.
- Review and approve the ESG and climate-related & environmental (C&E) policies and reports in Section F and ensure they place a focus on ESG and C&E matters. .
- Review occasionally, jointly with HRRC the External Recruitment Policy, the Internal Transfers Policy and the Employee Recognition Policy and make appropriate recommendations to the Board.
- Develop a strategy for ESG including C&E matters focusing on Environmental, Climate, Ethical, Social, and Economic pillars and ensure it is embedded throughout the operations of the Bank.:
- Monitor developments in corporate governance including regulatory developments which are relevant to the assessment of the suitability of holders of key roles within the Group, assess the implications for the Group and advise the Board accordingly.
- Review and approve minor changes to the Terms of Reference of all the Committees of the Board at least annually, in coordination with each Committee and with the CGCO of the Group.
- Consider and authorise a situation in which a Director has, or could have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict with the interests of the Group, providing that the situation cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest at the time that authorization is sought.

- When considering that such a situation gives rise to a conflict of interest and cannot be authorized then the Committee should decide on remedial action to eliminate such conflict or seek to terminate the situation giving rise to it.
- Oversee the implementation of the Conflicts of Interest Group Policy.
- Review periodically, and at least annually, in collaboration with the Audit and Risk Committees, the composition, authority and independence of internal control functions and report to the Board accordingly.
- Have access to all relevant information and data necessary to perform its role, including information and data from relevant corporate and control functions (e.g. legal, finance, human resources, IT, risk, compliance, including AML/CTF compliance, audit, etc.);
- Receive regular reports, ad hoc information, communications and opinions from heads of internal control functions concerning the current risk profile of the Group, its risk culture and its risk limits, as well as on any material breaches, that may have occurred, with detailed information on and recommendations for corrective measures taken, to be taken or suggested to address them;
- Periodically review and decide on the content, format and frequency of the information on risk to be reported to them; and
- Ensure, where necessary, the proper involvement of the internal control functions and other relevant functions (human resources, legal, finance) within their respective areas of expertise and/or seek external expert advice.

5. *Strategy Oversight*

- Advise, support and guide the CEO and Executive Team in formulating and implementing a business strategy geared to the sustainable development of the Bank taking into account ESG including C&E impacts. Oversee the Sustainability committee's implementation and progress regarding the ESG working plan.
- Review the institution's response and plan of action to the objectives set out under international agreements.
- Review and approve the ESG, including C&E, targets and KPIs and monitor their performance.
- Monitor the establishment of processes for planning, implementing, assessing and adjusting the business strategy.
- Oversee the Executive Team's implementation of the strategic plan and the execution progress against strategic milestones and goals.
- Review the strategic plan and its strategic initiatives and make appropriate recommendations to the Board
- Discuss with and advise the Executive Team:
 - as to whether the governance, risk appetite, financial and capital planning, liquidity and funding management control environment and resources can support the Bank's strategic objectives
 - on divesture and merger and acquisition strategy including post transaction performance tracking on the impact of changes in the competitive environment.

6. *Communication and Reporting*

- Formulate the annual NCGC Report included in the Annual Corporate Governance Report describing the work of the Committee, including:
 - the process it has used in relation to board appointments (including an explanation if neither an external search consultancy nor open advertising has been used in the appointment of the Chairperson or a non-executive Director);

- a description of the Board's policy on diversity (including gender), any measurable objectives that it has set for implementing the policy, and progress on achieving the objectives; and
 - where an external search consultancy or performance review facilitator has been used, it should be identified, and a statement made as to whether it has any other connection with the Group.
- Respond, through the Chairperson, to shareholder questions regarding Director development and succession, and / or Corporate Governance Policy of the Group at the Annual General Meeting.
 - Annually receive reports from Directors who from time to time participate in meetings with shareholders which are organised by the Bank's IR team and in accordance with the ToRs of the NCGC.
 - Report to the Board on the Committee's proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities.
 - Conduct an annual self-assessment and report its conclusions and recommendations for improvements and changes to the Board.
 - Ensure that the Committee's Terms of Reference are available on the Group's official website.

7. *Regulatory framework*

As per *Section R of the Board Manual*

F. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITIES BY THE MAIN BODY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following matters are delegated by the Main Body of the Board of Directors to the NCGC:

- Major changes to the Group's corporate structure (excluding internal reorganizations which may be approved by the Chief Executive Officer).
- Approval of the process of performance evaluation of Board and Board Committees and of the review of the findings.
- Determination of independence of non-executive Directors.
- Approval of minor changes to the Board Manual and the Terms of Reference of the Committees.
- Approval of Group Policy on the Suitability of members of the management body and KFH.
- Approval of Group Conflicts of Interest Policy.
- Approval of the Board Induction and Training Policy.
- Approval of Group Board Nominations Policy.
- Approval of the Corporate Sustainability Report.
- Approve the non-financial disclosures presented by the Sustainability Committee, such as but not limited to the TCFD Disclosures, Pillar III and the annual Sustainability Report.
- Approval of the ESG and Environmental Policy.
- Approval of the Sustainable Finance Framework enabling the Bank to issue Green/Social or Sustainable bonds.

Appendix A

Annual Board Performance Evaluation process

The Annual Board performance Evaluation process is formal and rigorous and covers, as a minimum the following:

- performance of the Board as a whole, including the balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge, its diversity (including gender), how the Board works together as a unit and other factors relevant to its effectiveness;
- performance of Committees and of individual members;
- in relation to the Board as a whole and Board Committees, as well as individual members of the Board, the ability:
 - to develop the Group's business objectives, risk appetite and strategies;
 - to set and oversee the risk and compliance management frameworks; and
 - to establish and maintain consistent organisational and operational arrangements and internal control mechanisms;
- composition (including diversity) of the Board and its Committees;
- in the case of individual evaluation, an assessment as to whether each member continues to contribute effectively and demonstrates commitment to the role (including commitment of time for Board or Committee meetings and other duties);
- communication with shareholders, including steps taken to understand major shareholders' issues and concerns and to ensure that the whole Board is aware of these issues and concerns;
- communication with management and competent authorities;
- effectiveness and clarity of the roles of Chairperson of the Board, Company Secretary and Senior Independent member of the Board, including as required by the Group Corporate Governance Policy;
- relationship between the Chief Executive Officer and the Chairperson of the Board;
- time commitment of non-executive members and capacity to critically review information and challenge the executive members, including their ability to constructively challenge and help develop proposals on strategy;
- evaluation of the suitability of each member of the Board and particularly the independence of each independent member;
- clarity of, and the leadership given to, the purpose, direction and values of the Group;
- quality of papers and presentations to the Board;
- quality of discussions around key issues;
- quality of the decision-making process, including the extent of involvement of non-executive members and obtaining expert opinions, time for debate and challenge, timely closure and clarity of course of action, timescale and responsibilities;
- succession planning;
- processes for identifying and reviewing risks; and
- Board training.

